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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This case arises out of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930, as amended in 1984, 7 U.S.C. §499a, et seq. ("PACA" or "Act"), and the PACA Trust provisions set forth at 7 U.S.C. §499e, et seq.

Plaintiff REY REY SFO, INC., (referred to herein as "Plaintiff" or "RRSFO"), operates as a seller of perishable agricultural commodities and is the beneficiary of a statutory trust provided for by the PACA.

Under the terms of the statutory trust, Defendants MIS AMIGOS MEAT MARKET, INC. ("MAMM"), a corporation; URIEL GONZALEZ ("UG"), an individual; and ALEJANDRO COSTA ("AC"), an individual;, are statutory trustees who must hold in trust for Plaintiff all inventories of food or other products derived from perishable produce, including any receivables or proceeds from the sale thereof, until Plaintiffs' PACA trust claims are fully paid. Defendants URIEL GONZALEZ ("UG") and ALEJANDRO COSTA ("AC"), are sometimes referred to as "the Individual Defendants." MAMM and The Individual Defendants are sometimes collectively referred to herein as "Defendants."

Plaintiff's PACA trust claim has priority over all other secured and unsecured claims against Defendants. By virtue of 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(4), U.S. District Courts are vested with original jurisdiction to hear actions brought by PACA trust beneficiaries to enforce payment from the trust.

In a series of transactions, occurring at the dates and in the amounts alleged in the First Cause of Action of Plaintiff's complaint, Plaintiff sold and shipped perishable agricultural commodities to Defendants in accordance with Defendants' instructions and at agreed-upon selling prices.

All commodities sold as described above were shipped in or in contemplation of, interstate and foreign commerce and were accepted by

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Defendants. Despite accepting all the commodities and despite reselling those commodities to their own customers, Defendants failed to pay for the commodities. Not only have Defendants admitted that the sums due as alleged herein remain payable to Plaintiff, but Defendants have failed and refused to fully and timely pay for the commodities despite repeated promises to make such payments and have dissipated the PACA trust assets rightfully belonging to Plaintiff.

Therefore, Plaintiff now seeks a Temporary Restraining Order or, alternatively, a Preliminary Injunction which would, in relevant part, (a) prevent Defendants from further dissipating the trust assets, and (b) requires Defendants to release or otherwise set aside the amounts owed to Plaintiff pending final adjudication of the complaint on file herein.

The issues to be decided by this Court upon Plaintiffs' application are as follows:

- 1. Whether Plaintiff qualifies as a PACA trust beneficiary;
- 2. Whether Defendants dissipated or are dissipating PACA trust assets including, but not limited to, inventory of perishable agricultural commodities, proceeds from the sale of such commodities and Defendants' accounts receivable; and,
- 3. Whether Defendants must immediately set aside and turn over to Plaintiff, PACA trust assets in amounts sufficient to satisfy Plaintiff's PACA trust claim as alleged herein.

A Temporary Restraining Order is an appropriate vehicle for protecting a PACA trust beneficiary's rights. *Tanimura and Antle, Inc., et al. v. Packed Fresh, Inc., et al.*, 222 F.3d 132, 140-141 (3d Cir. 2000); *Gullo Produce Company, Inc., et al. v. A.C. Jordan Produce Co., Inc.*, 751 F.Supp. 64 (W.D. Pa. 1990); *Frio Ice, S.A. v. Sunfruit, Inc.*, 918 F.2d 154 (11th Cir. 1990); *J.R. Brooks & Son, Inc. v. Norman's Country Market, Inc.*, 98 B.R. 47 (Bankr. N.D. Fla. 1989); Patricia J. Rynn, *Injunctive Relief Under The 1984 Trust Amendments to The Perishable*

Agricultural Commodities Act: A Necessary Means of Trust Enforcement, 23 U.C. Davis L.Rev. 3 (Spring 1990).

The district courts of the United States are vested with jurisdiction specifically to entertain actions by PACA trust beneficiaries to enforce payment from the trust. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(5). Accordingly, it is properly within this Court's discretion to grant Plaintiff's requested injunctive relief. By way of example, the attached injunction orders obtained from various U.S. District Courts are substantially identical to the requested order herein and are based upon produce creditors seeking enforcement of their PACA trust rights. See Orders to Show Cause, true and correct copies of which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as **Group Exhibit 1**.

II.

ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHING A PACA TRUST HAVE BEEN SATISFIED IN THE CASE AT BAR

A. The PACA Amendment Establishes A Trust For The Benefit Of The PACA Beneficiary

The PACA Amendment provides that the PACA Trust is created by operation of law upon the delivery of perishable agricultural commodities. In enacting the PACA Amendment, Congress recognized the importance of protecting the seller's perishable agricultural commodities. In particular, the PACA Amendment states, as follows:

It is hereby found that a burden on commerce in perishable agricultural commodities is caused by financing arrangements under which...dealers...who have not made payment for perishable agricultural commodities purchased, contracted to be purchased, or otherwise handled by them on behalf of another person, encumber or give lenders a security interest in, such commodities, or on inventories of food or other products derived from such commodities, and any receivables or

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proceeds from the sale of such commodities or products, and that such arrangements are contrary to the public interest. This subsection is intended to remedy such burden on commerce in perishable agricultural commodities and to protect the public interest. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) (Supp. 1986). (Emphasis added).

Therefore, upon the buyer's receipt of the produce, the PACA Amendment creates a PACA Trust in favor of the unpaid seller on all perishable agricultural commodities, all inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities as well as any receivables or proceeds from the sale of such commodities or products. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(2) (Supp. 1986). Specifically, the PACA Amendment provides, as follows:

> Perishable agricultural commodities received by a...dealer...in all transactions, and all inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of such commodities or products, shall be held by such...dealer...in trust for the benefit of all unpaid suppliers or sellers of such commodities or agents involved in the transaction, until full payment of the sums owing in connection with such transactions has been received by such unpaid suppliers, sellers, or agents. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(2) (Supp. 1986).

Accordingly, as soon as Defendants herein received the produce sold by Plaintiff, the PACA Trust was created by operation of law.

There Is No Tracing Requirement For The PACA Trust В.

The PACA Amendment does not require tracing and therefore trust assets are to be preserved as a non-segregated "floating trust." In addition, the amendment acknowledges that commingling is contemplated. If a dispute arises regarding the identification of the trust assets, the debtor has the burden to establish what, if any, assets are not subject to the PACA Trust. See, In re Fresh Approach, 51 B.R. 412, 422 (Bankr. N.D. Texas 1985) ["Fresh Approach II"], a seminal judicial decision analyzing the impact of the statutory trust provisions.

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In accordance with legislative directives, the court in Fresh Approach II based its decision upon the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 [7 U.S.C. §181, et seq.] (hereinafter "PSA"), and its subsequent line of cases, concluding that the trust created by the PACA was intended to be a "floating non-segregated statutory trust," to which claimants need not trace funds. See, In re Monterey House, 71 B.R. 244, 247 (Bankr. S.D. Texas 1986). Furthermore, the court in First State Bank v. Gotham Provision Co. (In re Gotham Provision Co.), 699 F.2d 1000, 1011 (5th Cir. 1982) (hereinafter "Gotham"), in holding that the PSA established a floating trust, stated:

> [W]here trust funds are commingled with funds not subject to the trust, a lien on the entire commingled fund exists for the benefit of the beneficiaries of the trust.

The Gotham court further held that when commingling occurs, the only burden on the unpaid cash sellers is to prove the balance due to them and the existence of a floating pool of commingled inventories of livestock products, accounts receivable and proceeds derived from cash and credit sales. Id. The court in Gotham, however, clearly placed the burden on the bankruptcy trustee (and the lending institution) to show that the receivables were not subject to the PACA trust. Id. at 1012. In re Hancock-Nelson Mercantile, Inc., 95 B.R. 982 (Bankr. N.D. Minn. 1989); In re W.L. Bradley Company, Inc., 75 B.R. 505 (E.D. Pa. 1987).

In re Kornblum & Co., Inc., 81 F.3d 280 (2nd Cir.N.Y. 1996) is particularly instructive because of its analysis of the issue of what property makes up the corpus of the PACA Trust. The Kornblum court rejected the debtor's contention that the only assets that are held in trust for a particular PACA beneficiary are the specific produce or proceeds supplied by that beneficiary. The court accepted the beneficiaries' argument that the res of the PACA Trust is not so limited and that "a single PACA trust exists for the benefit of all of the sellers to a Produce Debtor,

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and continues in existence until all of the outstanding beneficiaries have been paid in full."

The Kornblum court set forth a three-prong test for analyzing whether specific property is part of the PACA Trust. In order to prove that the property is not part of the PACA Trust, the debtor has the burden to establish either that (1) no PACA trust existed when the specific property was purchased; (2) even though a PACA Trust existed at that time, the property was not purchased with trust assets; or (3) although a PACA Trust existed when the property was purchased and the property was purchased with trust assets, the debtor thereafter paid all unpaid sellers in full prior to the transactions involving the creditors, thereby terminating the trust.

Moreover, in In re Atlantic Tropical Market Corporation, 118 B.R. 139 (Bankr. S.D. Fla. 1990), the court held that the PACA trust fund is established upon the commencement of the purchaser's produce related business. The court held that any business assets purchased by one who is in the business of buying and selling produce will be presumed to have been purchased with PACA trust assets, and any such assets may thus be viewed as collateral until the PACA trust claim has been paid in full. See also, Sanzone-Palmisano Company v. M. Seaman Enterprises, Inc., 986 F.2d 1010 (6th Cir. 1993).

Accordingly, the PACA beneficiary is not required to trace trust funds. To the extent any dispute arises regarding the trust assets, it is the Debtor who must prove which assets, if any, are not subject to the trust. In re Fresh Approach, supra.

Defendants are required by federal statute to hold all perishable agricultural commodities, the inventories of food or other products derived from the perishable agricultural commodities and the receivables and proceeds from the sale of the perishable agricultural commodities in trust for the PACA beneficiaries. In the event these liquid and intangible assets are insufficient to fully satisfy Plaintiff's trust claims, Plaintiff may look to other assets of Defendants for security of its trust

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claims. Defendants herein have failed or otherwise refused to perform their statutory duties and Plaintiff is therefore entitled to injunctive relief, which will require Defendants to set aside sufficient assets to fully satisfy their statutory trust obligations and which will restrain Defendants from any dissipation of the assets required to be held in trust.

C. <u>Defendants are "Dealers" As Defined by the Perishable</u> <u>Agricultural Commodities Act.</u>

Defendants are "dealers" under the PACA and are, therefore, subject to the PACA Trust Amendment. 7 U.S.C. §499e(a) and (c)(2). Specifically, the PACA Amendment and its regulations defines "dealer" as follows:

"Dealer" means any person engaged in the business of buying or selling in wholesale or jobbing quantities in commerce...:
7 U.S.C. §499a(6)

"Wholesale or jobbing" quantities is defined in the PACA regulations (7 C.F.R. §46.2(x)) as 2,000 pounds in any given day, either shipped, received, or contracted to be received. As demonstrated in the declaration of Manuel Reynoso, Defendants have purchased quantities in excess of 2,000 pounds in one day from Plaintiff alone.

In addition to purchasing the required quantity in any given day, in order to be a "dealer" under the PACA and required to obtain a PACA license, an entity must purchase at least \$230,000.00 worth of produce in any calendar year. See 7 C.F.R. §46.2(m) which states:

""Dealer" means any person engaged in the business of buying and selling in wholesale or jobbing quantities in commerce and includes:

- (1) Jobbers, distributors, and other wholesalers;
- (2) Retailers, when the invoice cost of all produce exceeds \$230,000.00 during a calendar year. . ."

As demonstrated by the declaration of Manuel Reynoso, Defendants purchased \$909,028.61 worth of produce from Plaintiff alone between February 2006 and December 2007, and in the calendar year of 2007, Defendants purchased a combined total of \$428,443.61 worth of produce from Plaintiff alone.

Defendants are therefore unquestionably subject to PACA and are therefore subject to <u>all PACA</u> rules and regulations.

D. The Produce Sold By Plaintiff Moved In And/Or In Contemplation Of Interstate Or Foreign Commerce

To qualify for protection under the PACA, the perishable agricultural commodities must have been bought or sold in the course of or in contemplation of foreign interstate commerce. 7 U.S.C. §499a(6). The produce that was sold to Defendants clearly moved in the stream of "interstate commerce" as that term has been defined by the case law.

For example, *Fresh Approach II* discussed "interstate commerce" and held that interstate commerce is established where the debtor purchases produce from both out-of-state vendors and in-state vendors who acquired produce from out-of-state sources. See *Fresh Approach II*, 51 B.R. at 424-28. Id. at 425. Specifically, the court stated:

In the case at bar, Debtor was one of the intermediaries in the stream of commerce flowing from the producers in various states to the consumers in Dallas, Texas. While it is true that a segment of that stream was wholly within the state of Texas, i.e., from [the PACA beneficiary] to Debtor, it cannot reasonably be denied that all parties contemplated a transaction having the practical effect of providing access for Texas consumers to produce grown in other states. Id. at 426.

Further, one court specifically held that PACA trust protection also extends to intrastate transactions by any "commissioned merchants, dealer, or broker" as

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defined under the PACA. J.R. Brooks & Son, Inc. v. Norman's Country Market, Inc., 98 B.R. 47, 49-50 (Bankr. N.D. Fla. 1989).

The declaration of Plaintiff's representative filed in support hereof verify that the produce sold in the subject transactions were sold in, and in contemplation of, interstate commerce.

Accordingly, the transactions at issue are within the scope of PACA and its statutory trust provisions.

Plaintiff Perfected Its Right To PACA Trust Benefits By Issuing E. Invoices That Contain All Language Necessary To Preserve Plaintiff's PACA Trust Rights in Compliance with 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(4)

Plaintiff is and during all times herein were a PACA licensee. Declarations of Plaintiff's representatives filed simultaneously herewith. Pursuant to the 1995 Amendments to the Act, PACA licensees, such as Plaintiff herein, may preserve PACA trust rights by using ordinary and usual invoice statements to provide notice of the licensees' intent to preserve its trust benefits. §499e(c)(4). Thus, under the terms of the 1995 PACA Amendments, a licensee who includes the following statement on the face of its invoices will have perfected its PACA trust rights:

> "The perishable agricultural commodities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5(c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. §499e(c)). The seller of these commodities retains a trust claim over these commodities, all inventories of food or other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of these commodities until full payment is received." 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(4).

As is self-evident from the copies of Plaintiff's invoices for the subject transactions (attached as Exhibits to the Plaintiff's Declaration) all of the unpaid

invoices included the above-quoted language, verbatim, on their face. Consequently, Plaintiff qualifies as a trust beneficiary under the PACA for all transactions which are the subject of those invoices. Therefore, this threshold requirement of the PACA Amendment has been satisfied.

F. <u>Defendants Failed To Establish A PACA Trust For The Protection of the PACA Beneficiaries</u>

Defendants were required by the PACA Amendment to hold:

[A]ll inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of such commodities or products...in trust for the benefit of...[the PACA Beneficiary] until *full payment* of the sums owing in connection with such transactions has been received by...[the PACA Beneficiary]. [7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(2).] (Emphasis added).

Defendants failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse, to preserve the PACA assets as required by the Act and by Defendants' actions and admissions, have insufficient trust assets to pay the amounts protected under the trust. See Declaration of Plaintiff's representatives filed simultaneously herewith. As such, Defendants are in violation of 7 U.S.C. §499e et seq. *See, In re Nagelberg & Co., Inc.*, 84 B.R. 19 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1988), which confirms that dissipation of PACA trust assets results from any act which could result in the diversion of such assets or which could prejudice or impair the ability of unpaid suppliers, sellers, or agents to recover money owed in connection with produce transactions. See also, 7 C.F.R. §46.46 (b)(2).

Moreover, during all times herein, the Individual Defendants held positions from where they could exercise control over the PACA trust assets which are the subject of this action. As such, the Individual Defendants are individually liable for M&C's failure to preserve the statutory trust assets. See Fillipo v. S. Bonaccurso & Sons, Inc., 466 F.Supp. 1008, 1016 (E.D. Pa 1978); Hendrick v. S.

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Bonaccurso & Sons, Inc., 466 F.Supp. 1025 (E.D. Pa 1978); Morris Okun, Inc. v. Harry Zimmerman, Inc., 814 F. Supp. 346 (S.D.N.Y. 1993); In re Harper, 150 Bankr. Rptr. 416 (E.D. Tenn. 1993); Mid-Valley Produce Corp. v. 4-XXX Produce Corp., 819 F.Supp. 209 (E.D.N.Y. 1993). See also Sunkist Growers, Inc. v. Fisher, 104 F.3d 280 (9th Cir. 1997), which held that those in positions to control assets of the PACA trust, and who have breached their fiduciary duty to preserve those assets, may be held personally liable under the PACA. See also, In re Harper, 150 Bankr. Rptr. 416 (E.D. Tenn. 1993); and Bartholomew M. Botta, Personal Liability for Corporate Debts: The Reach of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Continues to Expand, 2 DRAKE J.AG.LAW 339 (Winter 1997).

All Of The Threshold Prerequisites To The PACA Beneficiary's G. Right To Recovery Under The PACA Amendment Have Been Established

Plaintiff has established that it is entitled to enforce its trust claim against Defendants for the perishable agricultural commodities sold to Defendants. Specifically, the evidence shows that Plaintiff established:

- The PACA Amendment creates a trust for the benefit of the 1. PACA Beneficiary;
- There is no tracing requirement for the PACA Trust; 2.
- Defendants are dealers and statutory trustees under the 3. PACA:
- The perishable agricultural commodities sold by the PACA 4. Beneficiary moved in the course of or in contemplation of foreign and interstate commerce;
- Plaintiff perfected its right to the trust assets by including the 5. statutory trust language on its invoices and thus has a valid PACA trust claim against Defendants in the principal amount of at least \$88,753.30.

- 6. Defendants failed to maintain the PACA trust assets sufficient to protect Plaintiff, and dissipated and will be dissipating trust assets absent injunctive relief; and,
- 7. The Individual Defendants were officers, directors and/or shareholders of MAMM. who were in positions to control the PACA trust assets that are the subject of this action, and by breaching their fiduciary duty to the PACA beneficiary, are personally liable for the unpaid PACA trust claim.

Accordingly, this Court should find that Defendants were and are obligated to promptly pay Plaintiff the principal amount of at least \$88,753.30, plus recoverable attorney's fees and costs in the amount of \$4,120.00 and finance charges totaling \$3,966.22, all of which is protected under the provision of the PACA trust, as detailed in the Ex Parte Application.

Ш.

THE TRUST CLAIM OF THE PACA BENEFICIARY IS SUPERIOR TO AND TAKES PRIORITY OVER ALL OTHER SECURED OR UNSECURED CLAIMS AGAINST DEFENDANTS

The unambiguous wording of the PACA Amendment compels this Court to give Plaintiff's trust claims priority over all other secured or unsecured claims against Defendants. Legislative history concerning the PACA amendment makes it clear that it is intended to protect sellers of perishable agricultural commodities. The agriculture industry is unique because of the short life span of agriculture products. Thus, Congress recognized that the industry itself must be protected and therefore, through PACA, granted priority status to sellers of produce over other lenders who take liens on accounts, inventory and the proceeds thereof. [7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1)] (Supp. 1986).

In addition to the amendment itself, judicial decisions consistently affirm that a PACA Trust Beneficiary's trust claim has priority over other secured and

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NOWSKY PLACE DRIVE unsecured claims. See, In re Monterey House, Inc., supra, at 249; accord, In re Milton Poulos, Inc., 947 F.2d 1351 (9th Cir. 1991); See also, In re Prange Foods Corp., 63 B.R. 211 (Bankr. W.D. Mich. 1986). For example, In Fresh Approach II, supra, at p. 420-422, the court describes the priority of the PACA claimant's interest by holding:

It is clear from the terms of the PACA Amendments and the supporting legislative history that Congress intended to create a priority status for unpaid claimants, priming even the administrative claims which normally stand first in line in a bankruptcy distribution. To approve a plan which grants anything but such a priority would be in direct contravention of the purpose and intent of the PACA amendments. (Emphasis in original). 51 B.R. at 420.

See also, C.H. Robinson Company v. Alanco Corp., 239 F.3d 483 (2nd Cir. 2001) which held:

Allowing a ... PACA trustee to pay any other creditors with, PACA funds before the Seller is paid in full would frustrate [PACA's] purpose, and would be contrary to the language of PACA and its accompanying regulations. PACA trust beneficiaries are entitled to full payment before trustees may lawfully use trust funds to pay any other creditors." Id. at 488 (Emphasis added.)

Based upon the foregoing authorities, the PACA trust beneficiary unquestionably enjoy a priority status over all other creditors of Defendants, including secured creditors.

IV.

PLAINTIFF WILL SUFFER IRREPARABLE INJURY ABSENT THE ISSUANCE OF INJUNCTIVE RELIEF BY THIS COURT

The traditional elements for injunctive relief are: (a) irreparable harm; (b) probable success on the merits; (c) harm to the Plaintiff which outweighs the harm to the opposing party; and, (d) whether the public interest will be served by granting the proposed relief. Dollar-Rent-a-Car of Washington v. Travelers

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Indemnity, 774 F.2d 1371, 1374 (9th Cir. 1985). See also Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 65(b).

These elements are satisfied where sellers of perishable agricultural produce are not paid by the buyer for such produce and the seller demonstrates: (1) dissipation of the PACA trust assets; and (2) the buyer's general financial instability. Tanimura and Antle, Inc., et al. v. Packed Fresh, Inc., et. al., 222 F.3d 132, 140-141 (3d Cir. 2000).

Because PACA is remedial legislation, it must be construed broadly to effectuate its purpose of ensuring payment to unpaid produce sellers who qualify as PACA trust beneficiaries. Therefore, PACA trust dissipation constitutes irreparable harm and will satisfy the irreparable harm requirement for preliminary injunctive relief, especially where Plaintiffs submit evidence that the trust is being depleted and payment is not readily forthcoming or available. Tanimura and Antle, Inc., et al. v. Packed Fresh Produce, Inc., et al., 222 F.3d at 140-141.

In the Tanimura and Antle, Inc., et al v. Packed Fresh Produce, et al. case, Plaintiff sought a Temporary Restraining Order to, among other things, prevent further dissipation of the PACA trust assets. After hearing, the District Court denied injunctive relief because (1) it believed the Plaintiffs had an adequate remedy at law; and (2) it believed injunctive relief to be futile when the PACA trust assets were already depleted. Id. at 134.

On appeal, the District Court's denial of injunctive relief was reversed. In concluding that injunctive relief should have been granted, the Court of Appeal explained:

> [W]e conclude that an adequate remedy at law does not exist, and that injunctive relief to prevent dissipation of PACA trust assets may issue, when it is shown that the trust is being depleted and the likelihood is great that there will be no funds available to satisfy a legal judgment against the delinquent buyer. Id. at 139.

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With specific reference to the irreparable harm requirement, the Court noted that Plaintiffs in the Packed Fresh Produce case suffered irreparable injury as soon as the trust was depleted and payment was not readily forthcoming or available. Id. at 140-141.

Numerous federal courts across the country have held that PACA trust dissipation satisfies the irreparable harm requirement for injunctive relief if, absent such relief, ultimate recovery is rendered unlikely. For example, See Continental Fruit Co. v. Gatziolis & Co., 74 F.Supp. 453 (N.D. Ill. 1991) (finding irreparable harm because, absent injunctive action, potential trust dissipation would contravene PACA and permanently injure the trust beneficiary when the trustee had limited assets); Gullo Produce Co., v. A.C. Jordan Produce Co., 751 F.Supp. 64, 67 (W.D.Pa. 1990) (concluding that Plaintiffs "have suffered and will continue to suffer immediate and irreparable harm if the Defendant is not restrained from using or otherwise dissipating the trust assets" when the Defendant's insolvency precluded recovery); DeBruyn Produce, Co. v. Olympic Produce Co., 734 F.Supp. 483, 485-86 (N.D.Ga. 1989) (granting injunctive relief in the form of a segregated trust because the Plaintiffs, in light of the Defendant's troublesome financial situation, would suffer irreparable harm if unable to collect its receivables).

Plaintiff has submitted substantial evidence of dissipation of PACA trust assets and Defendants' general financial instability. 1 Specially, Plaintiff demanded payment from Defendants on dozens of occasions via telephone calls in addition to sending invoices requesting payment. Despite these efforts, payment has not been received. Further Defendants admitted to Plaintiff that the money is due, but nevertheless failed and refused to pay any portion of the debt despite repeated promises to do so. Also, Defendants are on the process of selling their stores.

Notably, the evidence submitted here is exactly the same sort of evidence submitted in the Packed Fresh Produce matter and which the Court of Appeal deemed sufficient when concluding that injunctive relief should issue.

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For these reasons, adequate evidence exists to establish that Defendants dissipated PACA trust assets, failed to maintain trust assets in amounts sufficient to fully pay Plaintiff for the produce which is the subject of this dispute and are likely unable to fully repay the debt. On that basis alone, Plaintiff has adequately satisfied the irreparable harm requirement necessary for injunctive relief.

Finally, it should be noted that Congress, in establishing the trust over perishable agricultural commodities and their proceeds, recognized the risks and hardships inherent in being a grower and shipper of perishables and the irreparable harm which will result when an insolvent purchaser cannot pay the grower in a timely manner. Specifically, Congress has stated:

> The process of growing, harvesting, packing and shipping perishables is a real gamble; costs are high, capital and returns are delayed until the crop is sold. If the growershipper cannot realize any returns on the sale of the crop when due, he may not be able to survive. Thus, where business failures or reorganizations occur on the part of buyers of their crop, the growers are usually the parties least able to withstand the losses and inevitable delays which result from such actions. Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930, Amendments, H.R. No. 98-543 (1984)].

Thus, Congress clearly acknowledged that when a supplier of perishable agricultural commodities is not paid by a purchaser, the supplier is exposed to irreparable harm to such a degree that the supplier may not even be able to survive. Accordingly, the PACA trust was created to remedy these potentially devastating risks to the suppliers by imposing a trust in favor of that supplier on the inventories of commodities and products derived therefrom and upon all proceeds of sales of such commodities and products in the hands of the commission merchant, dealer or broker. Fresh Approach II, 51 B.R. at 421.

The purpose of the PACA trust can only be accomplished if the corpus of the trust is maintained for the benefit of the unpaid supplier until full payment has

been made for all commodities purchased. *In re Annde Foods, Inc.*, 110 B.R. 346 (Bankr. N.D. Ill., 1989). Therefore, unless the relief requested by Plaintiff is issued to protect the trust rights of Plaintiff, there is the very real possibility that Plaintiff's trust rights may effectively be eviscerated. Parenthetically, because several months elapsed between when the TRO was first denied by the District Court in the *Packed Fresh* case and when it was finally entered after appeal, the PACA trust assets were dissipated and the PACA trust beneficiaries remain unpaid. Plaintiff asks this Court, in the exercise of its sound discretion, to minimize any prospects of such a repeat occurrence in the current case and to immediately require Defendants to preserve trust assets in a manner that they are guaranteed to be available to satisfy Plaintiff's trust claim.

For these reasons, Plaintiff will be irreparably harmed by the continued dissipation of trust assets if Defendants are not restrained from spending, diverting or distributing any funds before a hearing can be had on the merits of Plaintiff's complaint. Moreover, Defendants must be compelled to establish a segregated account into which trust funds must be placed in an amount sufficient to satisfy Plaintiff's claims. In the event the Court is inclined to hear this matter after notice despite the above, Plaintiff urge the court to set the hearing on an emergency basis not to exceed 24 hours.

Plaintiff has established that their claim to the trust assets is prior in right to all others. The trust interests of Plaintiff will be irreparably harmed if Defendants remain free to divert trust assets to third parties and Plaintiff does not receive payment. Further loss or dissipation of product proceeds or receivables held in trust by Defendants can only be prevented if the Court requires Defendants to segregate sufficient assets by depositing funds with the Court or in the alternative, depositing sufficient funds in a separate, trust account to be established by counsel herein.

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Finally, success on the merits of this particular action is highly likely. Defendants do not dispute that it has not paid Plaintiff for the produce transactions at issue. Moreover, it is clear that Plaintiff fully perfected its trust claim under the Act.

V.

NO BOND SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO GRANT PRELIMINARY RELIEF

No bond should be required to be posted as a condition of preliminary relief. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c) speaks of requiring a bond "for the payment of such costs and damages as may be incurred or suffered by any party who is found to have been wrongfully enjoined or restrained." However, the court has the discretion to dispense with the requirement of a bond completely under appropriate circumstances or to require a nominal bond. Sundor Brands, Inc. v. Borden, Inc., 653 F. Supp. 86, 93 (M.D. Fla. 1986). See also, California ex rel. Van De Kamp v. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, 766 F.2d 1319, 1324-25, as amended, 775 F.2d 998 (9th Cir. 1985); Wayne Chemical, Inc. v. Columbus Agency Serv. Corp., 567 F.2d 692, 701 (7th Cir. 1977).

In the instant matter, Defendants are to be ordered simply to comply with the trust provisions of the PACA. As it is required to do by law, Defendants are to sequester the PACA trust assets to which it lacks equitable title and to use them for the statutorily mandated purpose of satisfying qualified PACA claims.

The monies are clearly not Defendants' property. Rather, Defendants merely hold them as trustee for Plaintiff. Accordingly, there is no potential harm to Defendants from an order compelling them to comply with the law and to set aside funds that are not Defendants' property.

Under these circumstances, no bond should be required. In none of the other reported cases under the PACA trust provisions in which preliminary relief was ordered, did the court require a bond. See, e.g., J.R. Brooks & Son, Inc. v.

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Norman's Country Mkt., Inc., supra, 98 B.R. at 50-51; In re W.L. Bradley Co., 75 B.R. 505, 513-14 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1987). In Finest Fruits, Inc. v. Edward Boker, Inc., 86 Civ. 3903 (S.D.N.Y. May 30, 1986), in his bench ruling, District Judge Haight specifically and expressly held that no bond was necessary. A true and correct copy of this ruling is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit 2.

Accordingly, Plaintiff submits that the posting of a bond should not be a condition of obtaining a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction compelling Defendants to comply with the trust provisions of the PACA and to set aside the trust funds in their possession. Alternatively, should this Court feel some bond is appropriate, no more than a nominal bond should be required.

VI.

THE PACA TRUST BENEFICIARY IS ENTITLED TO RECOVER ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS EXPENDED TO RECOVER AMOUNTS DUE AS WELL AS PREJUDGMENT AND POSTJUDGMENT INTEREST PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE PACA TRUST AND SPECIFIC AGREEMENT

PACA trust beneficiaries who are compelled to bring a lawsuit to prevent dissipation of PACA trust assets are entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and other costs incurred thereby. *In re Monterey House, Inc.*, 71 B.R. 244 (Bankr. S.D. Texas 1986). *See also, In re Milton Poulos, Inc.*, 71 B.R. 244, 248 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. 1986); *Continental Sales Co. v. Billings*, No. 4-93-2763 (S.D. Tex. Mar. 6, 1996).

Furthermore, the sales agreements for the subject transactions between Plaintiff and Defendants included a provision for reimbursement of attorney's fees in the event litigation is commenced to recover the sums due under the invoices. See, Group Exhibit 1 appended to the declaration of Manuel Reynoso. In addition,

Plaintiff's invoices contained additional language for finance charges at the rate of 1.5% per month (18% annually). *See again*, Group Exhibit 1 appended to the Declaration of Manuel Reynoso, Plaintiff's representative, filed herewith. Under these circumstances, the Ninth Circuit has held that attorney's fees incurred by an unpaid produce supplier in connection with enforcing PACA trust rights plus written terms for recovery of finance charges, are to be included within the PACA trust claim. *Middle Mountain Land and Produce, Inc. v. Sound Commodities, Inc.*, 307 F.3d 1220 (9th Cir. 2002); (when invoices provide for recovery of attorney's fees and finance charges, those fees and charges are to be considered sums 'in connection with' the produce transactions).

For these reasons, Plaintiff requests that they be reimbursed all interest, costs, and attorney's fees incurred in bringing this action.

VII.

CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff's Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause re preliminary injunction should be granted.

RYNN & JANOWSKY, LLP

DATED: March 18, 2008

BART M. BOTTA, Attorneys for

Plaintiff

R. JASON READ, State Bar No. 117561 BART M. BOTTA, State Bar No.167051 RYNN & JANOWSKY, LLP 4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 700 3 Newport Beach, CA 92660-2423 CLERK, US DISTRICT COURT Telephone: (949) 752-2911 Facsimile: (949) 752-0953 **OCT - 4** 2007 Jason@rjlaw.com THIS CONSTITUTES NOTICE OF ENTRY Bart@rilaw.com AS REQUIRED BY FRCP, RULE 77(d). Note day by Attorneys for Plaintiffs -PRO, INC., d/b/a VALLEY FRUIT & PRODUCE CO. UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION 11 VAL-PRO, INC., a corporation d/b/a 07-06400 JFW. VALLEY FRUIT & PRODUCE 12 PROPOSEDI TEMPORARY COMPANY; 13 14 14 RESTRAINING ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE Plaintiffs, PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND PROPOSED PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION PRODUCE, INC.. NORTHRIDGE corporation; RANDY K. TOMINAGA, an 17 TOMINAGA, individual; **JANINE** 18 CLERK. US DISTRICT COURT MARTINEZ, an **JAIME** individual. individual; MARTINA MARTINEZ, an 19 individual, - 5 2001 20 Defendants. CENTRAL DISTRIC 21 22 Upon review of the First-Amended Complaint of Plaintiff, VAL-PRO, INC., a 23 corporation doing business as VALLEY FRUIT & PRODUCE COMPANY (hereinafter 24 referred to as "Valley Fruit" or "Plaintiff"), on file in the above-captioned action, and the 25 declarations, exhibits and Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support of Plaintiff's 26 Application for a Temporary Restraining Order and/or Preliminary Injunction submitted 27 28

[PROPOSED] TRO

therewith, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that this is a proper case for granting a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants NORTHRIDGE PRODUCE, INC. ("NPI"); JAIME MARTINEZ ("JM"), and MARTINA MARTINEZ ("MM"), (collectively referred to as "Defendants") appear in Courtroom \(\frac{1}{2} \) of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, Los Angeles Division, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012-4701 on \(\frac{1}{2} \) of the U.S. District as on thereafter as the matter may be heard, then and there to show cause, if any they have, why they, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, employees, attorneys, and representatives should not be restrained and preliminarily enjoined during the pendency of this action, pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- A. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable (including frozen) agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- B. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in trust assets of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA") [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.];
- C. Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of PACA].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, their owners, officers, directors, agents, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, assignors, attorneys and persons acting in concert with them, appear at the same time and place to show cause, if any they have, why they should not be commanded by order of this Court and required to distribute PACA trust assets in the amount of at least \$74,890.51, the cumulative amount

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of the PACA Trust principal owing to Plaintiff, plus finance charges accrued through October 1, 2007 in the amount of \$4,006.48, plus reasonable attorncy's fccs in the amount of \$4,387.50, plus filing fees of \$350.00, making in all the sum of \$83,634.49 as of the date hereof.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, Defendants, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, attorneys, and persons acting in concert with them shall be and hereby are prevented from transferring, withdrawing or in any other manner removing Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.] trust assets, including funds on deposit in banking accounts held by or on behalf of Defendants, from Defendants' banking accounts, including but not limited to Defendants' Citibank account number 3554034433 and any other accounts subsequently discovered to be standing in any Defendants' names.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Defendants and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall be preliminarily enjoined from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other D. person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products or crops sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, E. or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in the trust assets;
- Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) F. through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA)].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Defendants lack sufficient funds to promptly deposit the sums described above, Defendants shall be and hereby are required and ordered to:

- G. Immediately account to the Court and Plaintiff for all assets of the PACA trust from commencement of Defendants' business through the date of this Order.
- H. Immediately assign Defendants' inventory of perishable agricultural commodities and produce related receivables to Plaintiff for sale and collection until Plaintiff is fully paid, and deposit and/or deliver complete accounts, records, and information of all of said receivables to Plaintiff's counsel without charge to the trust, and subject to Plaintiff's counsel making a weekly accounting for all receivables received or collected by Plaintiff's counsel in that regard. Plaintiff's counsel shall act as trustee in connection with its duties of collection of the accounts receivable and shall deposit any cash assets of the trust which are collected under this order in a trust account.
- I. Endorse any checks made endorsed or paid, to Defendants which are trust assets and which are in their possession or obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this Order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after the entry of this Order, including but not limited to checks representing payment for sales of inventory, and shall deliver said assets within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiff's counsel as set forth above. Likewise, Defendants shall deliver any cash assets of the PACA trust which are in its possession or are obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after entry of this Order, within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiff's counsel.
- J. File weekly with this Court satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of this Order.

T IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiff and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall have full and complete and continuing access to all of

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Defendants' books and records, which shall include but not necessarily be limited to.

Defendants' accounts receivable and payable ledgers, invoices, ledgers, computer runs,
bank statements and canceled checks; relating to Defendants' business and personal
financial status from commencement of Defendants' business activities forward for the
purpose of verifying Defendants' accountings required by this Order and for enforcement
of this Order. Defendants shall, upon 48 hours notice by Plaintiff's counsel, allow
inspection and copying of the books and records of said Defendants by Plaintiff or its
representatives at Defendants' place of business.

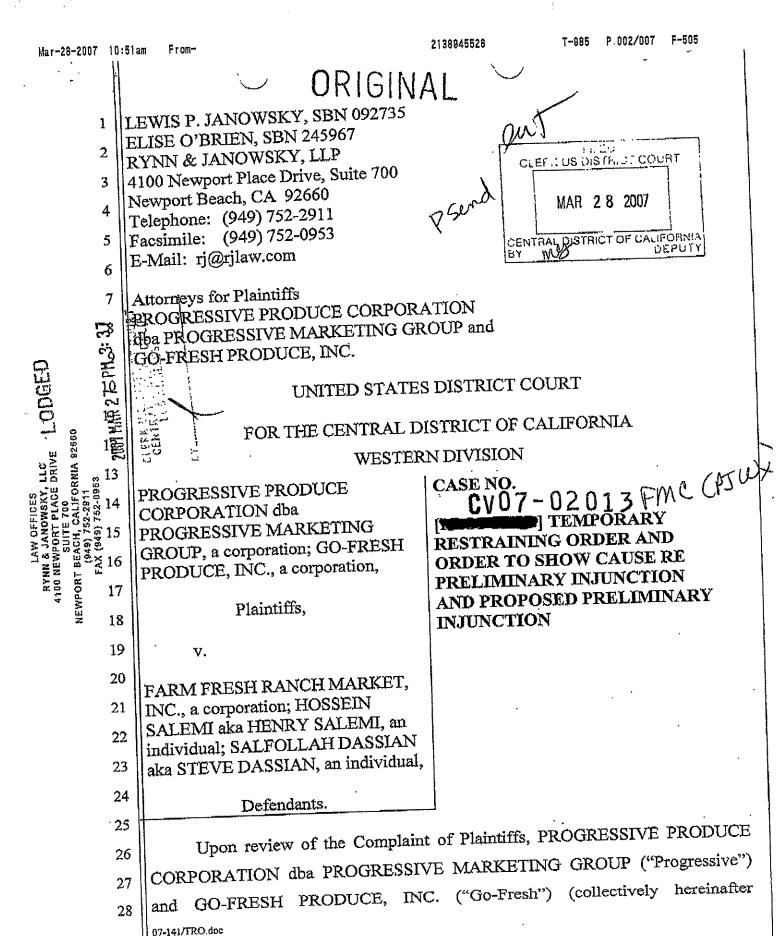
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiff shall be entitled to depose, under oath, at reasonable times and places, upon at least 48 hours notice, Defendants and/or Defendants' other principals, owners, directors, officers, shareholders, employees, agents and accountants concerning any matter pertaining to any accounting due pursuant to this Order, any books or records which Plaintiff are entitled to inspect under this Order, the trust assets or any of Defendants' business assets, and/or Defendants' business practices, procedures or operations from commencement of Defendants' business activities.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff may immediately take whatever steps are reasonably necessary to mitigate Plaintiff's damages by selling current inventory of fresh herbs previously sold to Defendants but for which Defendants have not paid Plaintiff, all such sales proceeds to be applied to Defendants' account.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no bond shall be required to be posted by Plaintiff before the Temporary Restraining Order is effective.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall serve Defendants with copies of this Order and all pleadings and other papers in support of the Order on or before October 8, 2007 by Federal Express with verification of receipt. Defendants shall file an Opposition, if any, to the Order to Show Cause on or before 4:00 p.m. on October 12, 2007, and shall personally serve Plaintiff's counsel with a copy of said

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1	Opposition by said deadline. Plaintiff shall file and serve a Reply to Defendar	ıts'
2	Opposition, if any, on or before 4:00 p.m. on October 16, 2007	; !
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"Plaintiffs"), on file in the above-captioned action, and the declarations, exhibits and Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order and/or Preliminary Injunction submitted therewith, and any and all documents provided by Defendants FARM FRESH RANCH MARKET, INC. ("FFRM"), HOSSEIN SALEMI aka HENRY SALEMI ("Salemi"), and SALFOLLAH DASSIAN aka STEVE DASSIAN ("Dassian") (collectively referred to as "Defendants") in opposition thereto, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that this is a proper case for granting a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants appear in Courtroom 760 of California, District of Central the Court for District U.S. the ST. Los Angeles, California on WED. APRIL II, 2007 255 E. TEMPLE m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, then and there to show cause, if any they have, why they, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, employees, attorneys, and representatives should not be restrained and preliminarily enjoined during the pendency of this action, pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other A. person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable (including frozen) agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiffs' beneficiary interests in trust assets of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA") [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.];

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NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA 92860 (848) 752-2911 FAX (949) 752-0963 2 1 1 7 752-0963 LAW OFFICES
RYNN & JANOWSKY, LLC
4100 NEWPORT PLACE DRIVE
SUITE 700

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Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of PACA].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, their owners, officers, directors, agents, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, assignors, attorneys and persons acting in concert with them, appear at the same time and place to show cause, if any they have, why they should not be commanded by order of this Court and required to distribute PACA trust assets in the total amount of at least \$81,626.48, which is \$72,418.50 (\$22,950.50 for Progressive; \$49,468.00 for Go-Fresh) in the amount of the PACA trust principal owing to Plaintiffs, plus finance charges accrued through March 26, 2007 for Plaintiff Progress in the amount of \$1,518.37, plus interest charges accrued through March 26, 2007 for Plaintiff Go-Fresh in the amount of \$1,602.11, plus reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of \$5,737.50 plus filing fees of \$350.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, Defendants, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, attorneys, and persons acting in concert with them shall be and hereby are prevented from transferring, withdrawing or in any other manner removing Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.] trust assets, including funds on deposit in banking accounts held by or on behalf of Defendants, from Defendants' banking accounts, including but not limited to Defendants' account number 751007709 at Bank of the West, 1234 East Main Street, El Cajon, California 92021, and any other accounts subsequently discovered to be standing in any Defendants' names.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Defendants and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall be preliminarily enjoined from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

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& JANOWSKY, LLC
WHONT PLACE DRIVE
SOURT 700
EACH, CALIFORNIA 92680
[849] 752-2911
X (949) 752-0963

RYNN & JANK 4100 NEWPORT SUITE NEWPORT BEACH, (849) 78 FAX (949) 7

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D. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products or crops sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;

- E. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiffs' beneficiary interests in the trust assets;
- F. Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA)].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Defendants lack sufficient funds to promptly deposit the sums described above, Defendants shall be and hereby are required and ordered to:

- G. Immediately account to the Court and Plaintiffs for all assets of the PACA trust from commencement of Defendants' business through the date of this Order.
- H. Immediately assign Defendants' inventory of perishable agricultural commodities and produce related receivables to Plaintiffs for sale and collection until Plaintiffs is fully paid, and deposit and/or deliver complete accounts, records, and information of all of said receivables to Plaintiffs' counsel without charge to the trust, and subject to Plaintiffs' counsel making a weekly accounting for all receivables received or collected by Plaintiffs' counsel in that regard. Plaintiffs' counsel shall act as trustee in connection with its duties of collection of the accounts receivable and shall deposit any cash assets of the trust which are collected under this order in a trust account.
- I. Endorse any checks made, endorsed or paid, to Defendants which are trust assets and which are in their possession or obtainable by Defendants at the 07-141/TRO.doc

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T-985 P.006/007 F-505

obtainable by Defendants after the entry of this Order, including but not limited to checks representing payment for sales of inventory, and shall deliver said assets within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiffs' counsel as set forth above. Likewise, Defendants shall deliver any cash assets of the PACA trust which are in its possession or are obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after entry of this Order, within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiffs' counsel.

J. File weekly with this Court satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiffs and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall have full and complete and continuing access to all of Defendants' books and records, which shall include but not necessarily be limited to, Defendants' accounts receivable and payable ledgers, invoices, ledgers, computer runs, bank statements and canceled checks, relating to Defendants' business and personal financial status from commencement of Defendants' business activities forward for the purpose of verifying Defendants' accountings required by this Order and for enforcement of this Order. Defendants shall, upon 2 business days notice by Plaintiffs' counsel, allow inspection and copying of the books and records of said Defendants by Plaintiffs or their representatives at Defendants' place of business.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiffs shall be entitled to depose, under oath, at reasonable times and places, upon at least 2 business days notice, Defendants and/or Defendants' other principals, owners, directors, officers, shareholders, employees, agents and accountants concerning officers, shareholders, employees, agents and accountants concerning

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T-985 P.007/007 F-505

any matter pertaining to any accounting due pursuant to this Order, any books or 1 records which Plaintiffs are entitled to inspect under this Order, the trust assets or any of Defendants' business assets, and/or Defendants' business practices, 3 procedures or operations from commencement of Defendants' business activities. 4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiffs are to serve copies of this Order 5 and all pleadings and other papers in support of the Order on or before 6 Defendants shall file an Opposition, if any, to the Order to Show 7 Cause on or before 4 p.m. on APRIL 4 , 2007 and shall personally 8 serve Plaintiffs' counsel with a copy of said opposition by the same deadline. 9 Plaintiffs shall file and serve on Defendants a Reply to Defendants' Opposition on 10 or before 4 pm. on Africa 9, 2007. 11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no bond shall be required to be posted by 12 Plaintiffs before the Temporary Restraining Order is effective. 2980-292 (698) 14 DATED: March 28, 2007 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

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ą R. JASON READ, State Bar No. 117561 1 BART M. BOTTA, State Bar No. 167051 2 RYNN & JANOWSKY, LLP 4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 700 3 Newport Beach, CA 92660-2423 4 Telephone: (949) 752-2911 OCT 2 6 2006 5 Attorneys for Plaintiffs DAVALAN SALES, INC., and TE BANANA COMPANY IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 DAVALAN SALES, INC., a corporation; 12 DAVALAN SALES, INC, a corporation trading as the BANANA COMPANY, 13 Plaintiffs, £15 PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION PRODUCE CO., A.S.A. corporation; ALI MOEZZI, an individual, Defendants. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 DOCKETED ON CM 28

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION

CASE NO. CV-06-5699 FMC (RZx)

AMENDED TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND PROPOSED

Upon review of the Complaint of Plaintiffs DAVALAN SALES, INC. ("DVI"), and THE BANANA COMPANY ("TBC") (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Plaintiffs"), on file in the above-captioned action, and the declarations, exhibits and Memorandum of Points and Authorities in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order and/or Preliminary Injunction submitted therewith, and all documents provided by Defendants A.S.A. PRODUCE CO., INC. ("A.S.A."), a corporation; and ALI MOEZZI ("AM"), an individual; (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Defendants"), in opposition thereto, if any, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the

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Court that this is a proper case for granting a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants appear in Courtroom _____ of the U.S.-District Court for the Central District of California, Los Angeles Division, 312 TEMPLE the Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012-4701 on Nov. 8 e.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, then and there to show cause, if any they have, why they, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, employees, attorneys, and representatives should not be restrained and preliminarily enjoined during the pendency of this action, pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other A. person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, B. or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiffs' beneficiary interests in trust assets of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA") [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.];
- Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of PACA].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, their officers, directors, bankers, agents, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, assignors, attorneys and persons acting in concert with them, appear at the same time and place to show cause, if any they have, why they should not be commanded by order of this Court and required to distribute PACA Trust assets in the amount of at least \$45,143.79 which includes \$37,647.00, the cumulative amount of the PACA Trust principal owing to Plaintiffs, plus \$2,889.29 in finance charges through October 23, 2006, calculated at the agreed-upon NEWPORT PLACE DRIVE SUITE 700 NEWPORT PLACE DRIVE SUITE 700 NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA 92660-2423 (949) 752-2911 FAX (949) 752-2911 FAX (949) 752-2911 FAX (94) 752-2911

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rate of 1-1/2% per month, plus reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of \$4,257.50 plus filing fees of \$350.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, Defendants, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, principals, attorneys, and persons acting in concert with them shall be and hereby are prevented from transferring, withdrawing or in any other manner removing Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.] trust assets, including funds on deposit in banking accounts held by or on behalf of Defendants, from Defendants' banking accounts, including but not limited to Defendants' accounts at Alliance Bank, 100 Corporate Pointe, Culver City, CA 90230, account no. 01027514, or any other banking account subsequently determined to be standing in Defendants' names, or any one of them.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Defendants and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall be preliminarily enjoined from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- D. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products or crops sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- E. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiffs' beneficiary interests in the trust assets;
- F. Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA)].

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Defendants lack sufficient funds to promptly deposit the sums described above, Defendants shall be and hereby are required and ordered to:

- Immediately account to the Court and Plaintiff for all assets of the PAÇA G. trust from commencement of Defendants' business through the date of this Order.
- Immediately assign Defendants' produce related receivables to Plaintiffs H. for collection until Plaintiffs are fully paid, and deposit and/or deliver complete accounts, records, and information of all of said receivables to Plaintiffs' counsel without charge to the trust, and subject to Plaintiffs' counsel making a weekly accounting for all receivables received or collected by Plaintiffs' counsel in that regard. Plaintiffs' counsel shall act as trustee in connection with its duties of collection of the accounts receivable and shall deposit any cash assets of the trust which are collected under this order in a trust account.
- Endorse any checks made, endorsed or paid, to Defendants which are trust I. assets and which are in their possession or obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this Order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after the entry of this Order, including but not limited to checks representing payment for sales of growing crops, and shall deliver said assets within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiffs' counsel as set forth above. Defendants shall deliver any cash assets of the PACA trust which are in its possession or are obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after entry of this Order, within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiffs' counsel.
- File weekly with this Court satisfactory evidence of compliance with the J. terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiffs and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall have full and complete and continuing access to all of Defendants' books and records, which shall include but not necessarily be limited to,

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Defendants' accounts receivable and payable ledgers, invoices, ledgers, computer runs, bank statements and canceled checks, relating to Defendants' business and personal financial status from commencement of Defendants' business activities forward for the purpose of verifying Defendants' accountings required by this Order and for enforcement of this Order. Defendants shall, upon 2 business days notice by Plaintiffs' counsel, allow inspection and copying of the books and records of said Defendants by Plaintiffs or their representatives at Defendants' place of business.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiffs shall be entitled to depose, under oath, at reasonable times and places, upon at least 2 business days notice, Defendants and/or Defendants' other principals, owners, directors, officers, shareholders, employees, agents and accountants concerning any matter pertaining to any accounting due pursuant to this Order, any books or records which Plaintiff is entitled to inspect under this Order, the trust assets or any of Defendants' business assets, and/or Defendants' business practices, procedures or operations from commencement of Defendants' business activities.

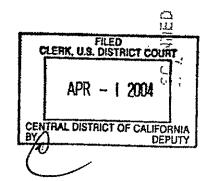
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff is to serve copies of this Order and all pleadings and other papers in support of the Order on or before 10/27/06 Defendants shall file an Opposition, if any, to the Order to Show Cause on or before p.m. on //2, 2006 and shall personally serve Plaintiffs' counsel with a copy of said opposition by the same deadline. Plaintiffs shall file and serve on Defendants a Reply to Defendants' Opposition on or before ______.m. on _, 2006.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no bond shall be required to be posted by Plaintiff before the Temporary Restraining Order is effective.

DATED: Och 26, 2006

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R. JASON READ, State Bar No. 117561 MINDY JAMES NILI, State Bar No. 197226 RYNN & JANOWSKY, LLP 4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 700 Newport Beach, CA 92660-2423 Telephone: (949) 752-2911 Send 4 Enter 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff Closed JS-5/JS-6 GRANDVIEW RANCH, INC. 6 JS-2/JS-3 Scan Only_



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

OR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE DIVISION

RANCH, INC., GRANDVIEW rporation,

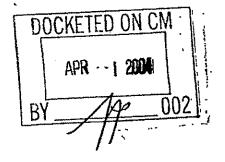
a CASE NO.

Plaintiff,

[PROPOSED] TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND PROPOSED PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

v.

MARKETS, HALUM INC., business doing corporation as COACHELLA RANCH MARKET; corporation INC., a doing business as EL SUPER TORO LOCO; ABESUD D. HALUM, HALUM, ABBY an a/k/a individual; MONA HALUM, individual,



Defendants.

Upon review of the Complaint of Plaintiff GRANDVIEW RANCH, INC. (hereinafter referred to as "Grandview" "Plaintiff"), on file in the above-captioned action, and the declarations, exhibits and Memorandum of Points Authorities in support of Plaintiff's Motion for



04-138/ ProposedTRO

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Temporary Restraining Order and/or Preliminary Injunction as a result of -provided t by therewith, and submitted Defendants HALUM MARKETS, INC. ("HMI"), a corporation doing COACHELLA RANCH MARKET ("CRM"), ABSA, LINC. business as corporation doing business as EL SUPER TORO ("ABSA"), a HALUM ABBY ABESUD D. HALUM, a/k/a Loco"), ("Toro MONA HALUM ("MH"), (hereinafter referred to ("AH"), and collectively as "Defendants"), in opposition thereto, if any, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that this is a proper case for granting a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants HMI, CRM and ABSA appear in Courtroom 10 of the U.S. District Court for the 315 borth Spring Streets Central District of California, Riversi - , 2004, at 🗝 CA 92501 on March .m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, then and there to show cause, if any they have, why they, their agents, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, attorneys, transferees, principals, employees, representatives should not be restrained and preliminarily enjoined during the pendency of this action, pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, from committing, or performing directly and in, indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

A. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural

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commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;

- Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, В. has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in trust assets of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA") [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.];
- Taking any other action whatsoever which violates C. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. \$499b(4) [\$2 of PACA].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants HMI, CRM and ABSA and their fictitious businesses, their officers, directors, agents, subsidiaries, successors, assignees, bankers, and persons acting in principals, assignors, attorneys concert with them, appear at the same time and place to if any they have, why they should not be show cause, commanded by order of this Court and required to distribute PACA trust assets in the amount of at least \$99,709.96, which includes \$97,989.20, the cumulative amount of the PACA trust principal owing to Plaintiffs, plus \$1,720.76 in finance charges accrued from the dates of default for each transaction through March 30, 2004 at the agreed-upon rate of 11% per month (18% annually).

FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and IS Cause, the foregoing Order Show to determination of fictitious their and ABSA and CRM Defendants HMI, bankers, subsidiaries, agents, their businesses,

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successors, assignees, principals, attorneys, and persons in concert with them shall be and hereby are acting prevented from transferring, withdrawing or in any other manner removing Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act U.S.C. §499e et seq.] trust assets, including funds on in banking accounts held by or on behalf deposit Defendants, from Defendants' banking accounts, including but not limited to Defendants' accounts at Banks (a) Valley Independent Bank, 1491 Sixth Street, Coachella, CA 92236 account numbers 005513308, 005511976, and 005513022; (b) Valley Independent Bank, 81-790 Highway 111, Indio, 92201 account no. 007504586; and, (c) California Bank & Trust, 81701 US Highway 111, Indio, CA 92201 account no. any other banking account subsequently 2460008751, or determined to be standing in Defendants' name's, or any one of them.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Defendants and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall be preliminarily enjoined from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

D. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products or

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crops sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;

- Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, Ε. the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in the trust assets;
- Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA)].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Defendants lack sufficient funds to promptly deposit the sums described above, Defendants shall be and hereby are required and ordered to:

- Immediately account to the Court and Plaintiff for commencement from trust PACA the of assets all Defendants' business through the date of this Order.
- related Immediately assign Defendants' produce receivables to Plaintiff for collection until Plaintiff is fully paid, and deposit and/or deliver complete accounts, records, and information of all of said receivables Plaintiff's counsel without charge the to subject to Plaintiff's counsel making a weekly accounting for all receivables received or collected by Plaintiff's counsel in that regard. Plaintiff's counsel shall act as trustee in connection with its duties of collection of the accounts receivable and shall deposit any cash assets of the trust which are collected under this order in a trust account.

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- any checks made, endorsed or paid, to Endorse I. Defendants which are trust assets and which are in their possession or obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this Order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after the entry of this including but not limited to checks representing payment for sales of growing crops, and shall deliver said assets within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to above. Likewise, forth set Plaintiff's counsel as Defendants shall deliver any cash assets of the PACA trust which are in its possession or are obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after entry of this Order, within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiff's counsel.
 - J. File weekly with this Court satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing determination of the foregoing Order to Show eause, continuing thereafter, Plaintiff and its counsel, agents, have full and complete or representatives, shall continuing access to all of Defendants' books and records, which shall include but not necessarily be limited accounts receivable and ledgers, payable Defendants' leagers, computer runs, bank statements and invoices, Defendants' business and relating to canceled checks, personal financial status from commencement of Defendants' business activities forward for the purpose of verifying Defendants' accountings required by this Order and for Defendants shall, upon enforcement of this Order. notice by Plaintiff's allow counsel, days business inspection and copying of the books and records of said representatives its Plaintiff or Defendants by Defendants' place of business.

IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, - and entitled to Plaintiff shall be continuing thereafter, depose, under oath, at reasonable times and places, upon at least 2 business days notice, Defendants and/or Defendants' officers, directors, principals, owners, other shareholders, employees, agents and accountants concerning any matter pertaining to any accounting due pursuant to Plaintiff records which books or this Order, any entitled to inspect under this Order, the trust assets or any of Defendants' business assets, and/or Defendants' operations from procedures practices, commencement of Defendants' business activities personally

of this Order and all pleadings and other papers in support of the Order on or before April 5, 2004. Defendants shall file an Opposition, if any, to the Order to Show Cause on or before 3.30 p.m. on April 8, 2004, 2004 and shall

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personally serve Plaintiff's counsel with a copy of said opposition by the same deadline. Plaintiff shall file, and serve on Defendant a Reply to Defendants' Opposition on or before \$1.00 p.m. on 1

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no bond shall be required to be posted by Plaintiff before the Temporary Restraining Order is effective.

DATED:

COURT JUDGE

R. JASON READ, SBN 117561 MINDY L. JAMES, SBN 197226

RYNN & JANOWSKY

4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 700

Newport Beach, CA 92660

Telephone:

(949) 752-2911

Facsimile:

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(949) 752-0953

Attorneys for Plaintiff MALENA PRODUCE, INC.

FILED CLERK US DISTRICT COURT JUN 18 2002 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVINITY

CASE NO.

A PRODUCE, INC., a ration,

Plaintiff,

HUGO IRAHETA, individually and doing business as HUGO PRODUCE COMPANY,

Defendants.

[PROPOSED] TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND

PROPOSED PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

the Complaint of Plaintiff MALENA review of PRODUCE, INC. (" Malena" or "Plaintiff"), on file in the above-captioned action, and the declarations, exhibits and support Authorities in and Points Memorandum of Plaintiff's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order and/or Preliminary Injunction submitted therewith, and any and all documents provided by Defendants HUGO IRAHETA, individually and doing business as HUGO PRODUCE COMPANY (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Defendants") in opposition

02-168/Proposed TRO

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thereto, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that this is a proper case for granting a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause,

Defendants IT IS **HEREBY** ORDERED that Courtroom 750 of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, 255 E. Tende St., Los Angeles, California 90012 on July 2, 2002, at 3:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, then and there to show cause, if any they have, why they, their assignees, bankers, subsidiaries, successors, agents, and representatives principals, employees, attorneys, should not be restrained and preliminarily enjoined during the pendency of this action, pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, from engaging committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- A. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable (including frozen) agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- B. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in trust assets of the

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Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA") [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.];

Taking any other action whatsoever which violates C. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of PACA].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, their owners, subsidiaries, bankers, agents, officers, directors, successors, assignees, principals, assignors, attorneys and persons acting in concert with them, appear at the same time and place to show cause, if any they have, why they should not be commanded by order of this Court and required to distribute PACA trust assets in the amount of at least the includes \$65,098.25, \$70,566.87, which amount of the PACA Trust principal owing to Plaintiff, plus \$1,963.62 in interest accrued from the dates of default for each transactions through June 13, 2002 at a rate of 10% per annum and attorneys' fees in the amount of \$3,355.00 and costs of \$150.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and foregoing Order to Show of the determination subsidiaries, bankers, agents, Defendants, their and persons successors, assignees, principals, attorneys, hereby and in concert with them shall be prevented from transferring, withdrawing or in any other manner removing Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.] trust assets, including funds deposit in banking accounts held by or on behalf οf

Defendants, from Defendants' banking accounts, including but not limited to account number 09899-06398, at the Bank of America, 10200 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, California 91324 from Defendants' banking accounts.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Defendants and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall be preliminarily enjoined from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- D. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products or crops sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise trust disposing of vassets, books or funds;
- E. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in the trust assets;
- F. Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA)].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Defendants lack sufficient funds to promptly deposit the sums described

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above. Defendants shall be and hereby are required and ordered to:

- G. Immediately account to the Court and Plaintiff for all assets of the PACA trust from commencement of Defendants' business through the date of this Order.
- assign Defendants' inventory Immediately H. perishable agricultural commodities and produce related receivables to Plaintiff for sale and collection until fully paid, and deposit and/or deliver Plaintiff is complete accounts, records, and information of all of said receivables to Plaintiff's counsel without charge to the trust, and subject to Plaintiff's counsel making a weekly accounting for all receivables received or collected by Plaintiff's counsel Plaintiff's counsel in that regard. shall act as trustee in connection with its duties of collection of the accounts receivable and shall deposit any cash assets of the trust which are collected under this order in a trust account. In Plaintiff's sole discretion, to the extent necessary to prevent loss of Defendant's inventory of perishable agricultural commodities through decay, over-ripening, spoliation or improper storage or handling; Plaintiff may immediately take possession of any such inventory and sell such inventory through a PACA licensed broker. The proceeds of any such sales shall be held in trust by Plaintiff's counsel pending further order Any broker retained by Plaintiff or of this court. Plaintiff's counsel to effectuate such sales may retain a

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brokerage commission in an amount reasonable and customary produce industry. The U.S. Marshal immediately assist Plaintiff in any manner reasonably necessary to accomplish the sales that are the subject of this agreement.

- Endorse any checks made, endorsed or paid, to Ι. Defendants which are trust assets and which are in their possession or obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this Order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after the entry of this Order, including but not limited to checks representing payment for sales of inventory, and shall deliver said assets within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to as set forth above. Likewise, counsel Plaintiff's Defendants shall deliver any cash assets of the PACA trust which are in its possession or are obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after entry of this Order, within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of at the time of the hearing them to Plaintiff's counsel.
 - File weekly with this Court satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, continuing thereafter, Plaintiff and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall have full and complete continuing access to all of Defendants' books and records,

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which shall include but not necessarily be limited to, payable ledgers. receivable and Defendants' accounts invoices, ledgers, computer runs, bank statements business canceled checks, relating to Defendants' personal financial status from commencement of Defendants' business activities forward for the purpose of verifying Defendants' accountings required by this Order and for enforcement of this Order. Defendants shall, upon 48 hours notice by Plaintiff's counsel, allow inspection and copying of the books and records of said Defendants by Plaintiff or its representatives at Defendants' place of business.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiff shall be entitled depose, under oath, at reasonable times and places, upon at least 48 hours notice, Defendants and/or Defendants other shareholders. principals, owners, directors, officers, employees, agents and accountants concerning any matter pertaining to any accounting due pursuant to this Order, any books or records which Plaintiff are entitled inspect under this Order, the trust assets or Defendants' business assets, and/or Defendants' practices, procedures or operations from commencement of Defendants' business activities.

FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall Defendants with copies of this Order and all pleadings and other papers in support of the Order oron

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Order is effective.

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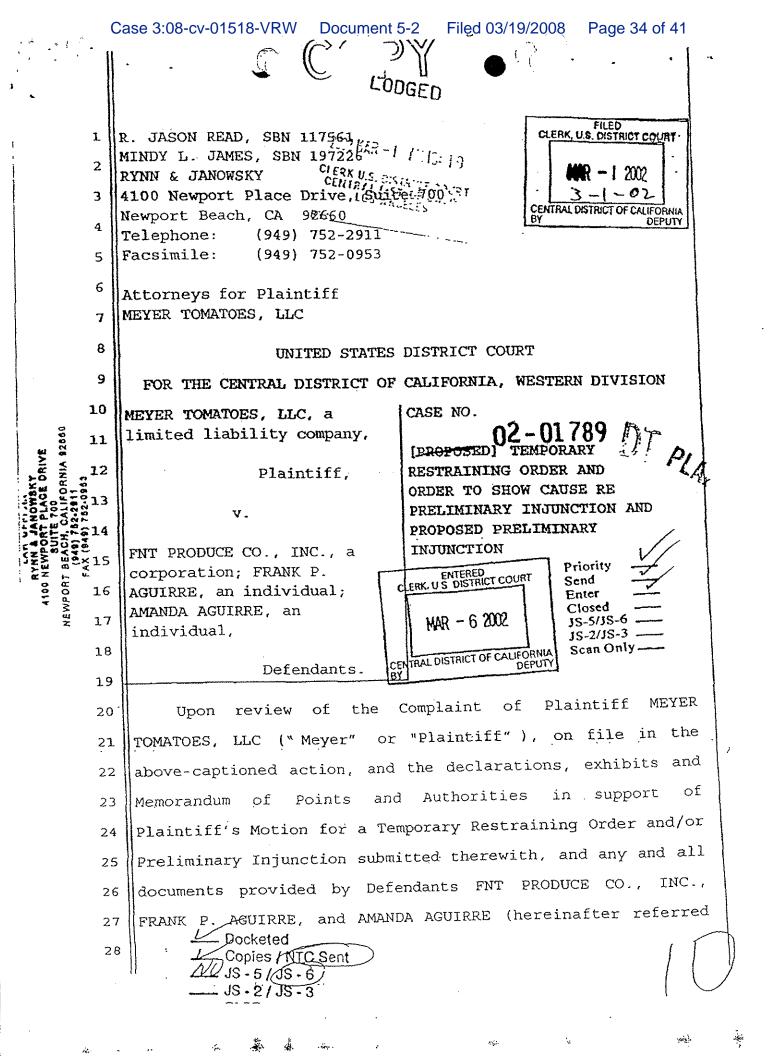
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02-168/Proposed TRO



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and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that this is a proper case for granting a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause,

Defendants appear that ORDERED HEREBY IT IS Courtroom 500 of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, 255 E. Jemple St., Los Angeles, 90012 on March H . 2002, at 1:30 D.m., California or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, then and there to show cause, if any they have, why they, their assignees, successors, subsidiaries, bankers, agents, representatives principals, employees, attorneys. and should not be restrained and preliminarily enjoined during the pendency of this action, pursuant to Rule 65 of the from engaging Rules of Civil Procedure, Federal committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

A. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable (including frozen) agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;

B. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in trust assets of the

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Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA") [7 U.S.C. §499e et seg.];

Taking any other action whatsoever which violates C. 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of PACA].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, their officers, subsidiaries, successors, agents, bankers, directors, assignees, principals, assignors, attorneys and persons acting in concert with them, appear at the same time and place to show cause, if any they have, why they should not be commanded by order of this Court and required to distribute PACA trust assets in the amount of at least cumulative \$51,517.65, which includes \$46,340.95, the amount of the PACA Trust principal owing to Plaintiff, plus \$1,396.70 in finance charges accrued from the dates of default for each transactions through February 28, 2002 at a rate of 18% per annum pursuant to 45 Fed.Reg. 37,872 (1980) and attorneys' fees in the amount of \$3,630.00 and costs of \$150.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and Show Cause, foregoing Order to determination of the subsidiaries, bankers, agents, their Defendants, successors, assignees, principals, attorneys, and persons in concert with them shall be and hereby are prevented from transferring, withdrawing or in any other manner removing Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act [7 U.S.C. §499e et seq.] trust assets, including funds on

deposit in banking accounts held by or on behalf of Defendants, from Defendants' banking accounts, including but not limited to Defendants' accounts held at Pacific Western National Bank, located at 200 S. Vincent Ave., West Covina, CA 91790.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Defendants and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall be preliminarily enjoined from engaging in, committing, or performing directly and indirectly, any and all of the following acts:

- D. Removing, withdrawing, transferring, assigning or selling to any other person or entity, the proceeds from the sales of any or all existing or future inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities, and/or receipts of payment for products or crops sold prior to the date of this order and/or otherwise disposing of assets, books or funds;
- E. Taking any other action whatsoever which causes, has the effect of causing, or which otherwise dissipates Plaintiff's beneficiary interests in the trust assets;
- F. Taking any other action whatsoever which violates 7 U.S.C. §499e(c)(1) through (4), inclusive, and 7 U.S.C. §499b(4) [§2 of Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act ("PACA)].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Defendants lack sufficient funds to promptly deposit the sums described

- G. Immediately account to the Court and Plaintiff for all assets of the PACA trust from commencement of Defendants' business through the date of this Order.
- inventory Defendants' Immediately assign Η. perishable agricultural commodities and produce related receivables to Plaintiff for sale and collection until Plaintiff is fully paid, and deposit and/or deliver complete accounts, records, and information of all of said receivables to Plaintiff's counsel without charge to the trust, and subject to Plaintiff's counsel making a weekly accounting for all receivables received or collected by Plaintiff's counsel Plaintiff's counsel in that regard. shall act as trustee in connection with its duties of collection of the accounts receivable and shall deposit any cash assets of the trust which are collected under this order in a trust account. In Plaintiff's sole discretion, to the extent necessary to prevent loss of Defendant's inventory of perishable agricultural commodities through decay, over-ripening, spoliation or improper storage or handling: Plaintiff may immediately take possession of any such inventory and sell such inventory through a PACA licensed broker. The proceeds of any such sales shall be held in trust by Plaintiff's counsel pending further order Any broker retained by Plaintiff or of this court. Plaintiff's counsel to effectuate such sales may retain a

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in the produce industry. The U.S. Marshal shall immediately assist Plaintiff in any manner reasonably necessary to accomplish the sales that are the subject of this agreement.

- Endorse any checks made, endorsed or paid, to I. Defendants which are trust assets and which are in their possession or obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this Order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after the entry of this Order, including but not limited to checks representing payment for sales of inventory, and shall deliver said assets within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Likewise, forth above. set counsel as Plaintiff's Defendants shall deliver any cash assets of the PACA trust which are in its possession or are obtainable by Defendants at the time of the entry of this order, or which Defendants obtain or which become obtainable by Defendants after entry of this Order, within 48 hours of Defendants' receipt of them to Plaintiff's counsel.
 - J. File weekly with this Court satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending the hearing and determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiff and their counsel, agents, or representatives, shall have full and complete and continuing access to all of Defendants' books and records,

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which shall include but not necessarily be limited to, Defendants' receivable and payable accounts invoices, ledgers, computer runs, bank statements canceled checks, relating to Defendants' business and personal financial status from commencement of Defendants' business activities forward for the purpose of verifying Defendants' accountings required by this Order and for enforcement of this Order. Defendants shall, upon 48 hours notice by Plaintiff's counsel, allow inspection and copying of the books and records of said Defendants by Plaintiff or its representatives at Defendants' place of business.

determination of the foregoing Order to Show Cause, and continuing thereafter, Plaintiff shall be entitled to depose, under oath, at reasonable times and places, upon at least 48 hours notice, Defendants and/or Defendants' other principals, owners, directors, officers, shareholders, employees, agents and accountants concerning any matter pertaining to any accounting due pursuant to this Order, any books or records which Plaintiff are entitled to inspect under this Order, the trust assets or any of Defendants' business assets, and/or Defendants' business practices, procedures or operations from commencement of Defendants' business activities.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall serve
Defendants with copies of this Order and all pleadings and
other papers in support of the Order on or before

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Much 5,200. Defendants shall file an Opposition, if any, to the Order to Show Cause on or before 3:00 p.m. on Much 11, 2002, and shall personally serve Plaintiff's counsel with a copy of said opposition by the same deadline. Plaintiff shall file and serve on Defendant a Reply to Defendants' Opposition on or before 3:00 p.m. on Much 13,2002.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no bond shall be required to be posted by Plaintiff before the Temporary Restraining Order is effective.

DATED: March 1, 2002

DICKRAN TEVRIZIAN

U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

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AUG 8 1986 FINEST FRUITS, INC., S 0. OF H Plaintiff, 5 \mathbf{c} 86 Civ. 3903 (CSII) EDWARD BOKER, INC., 7 and STERLING NATIONAL BANK, N.A., 8 Defendants. 9 10 Before: 11 HON_ CHARLES S. HAIGHT, 12 District Judge 13 New York, N. 14 May 30, 1986 -15 APPEARANCES: 16 SURES, DONDERO and McCARRON, . Attorneys for Plaintiff 17 · STEPHEN P. McCARRON, --and-مَد JOSEPH MANDELL, 29 STANLEY ISRAEL, 20 Attorney for Defendant Edward Boker, Inc.

EDWARD SILVERSTEIN

ALSO PRESENT:

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: JERROLD GILBERT, ---

SOUTHERN DITTRICT REPORTER UT CONTLIONS

Attorney for Defendant Sterling

National Bank, N.A.

EXHIBIT 2

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is when Finest eventually gets a judgment, they are going to go to Boker in 70, 80 or 100 days; and say: Boker, here's our judgment, will you pay us the \$30,000? And Boker is going to turn around and say: I'm sorry, we don't have any money. The bank has all the money. Sterling Bank has been in here and has taken all our money.

that's pretty much what Mr. Israel said, that the bank is running the operation. Then we go to the bank, and the bank says: We are not a statutory trustee, we don't owe you anything, we didn't buy anything under the Act. I'm sorry, we can't pay you, either.

The Act is designed to assure that that does not happen, and the district courts are given specific jurisdiction in this kind of case, and all we are asking is that \$30,388 and some-odd cents be set aside. If we are already setting money aside and so sure everybody is going to be paid off, what's the big deal? Put it aside. We just want to make extra sure. We don't want to give up our rights, and want to make sure that the law is enforced.

All we are asking is that they put up money in an interest-bearing account, and nobody can touch it until further order of the court.

THE COURT: All right. I took that the time

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exigencies indicate that I should sule on this application for preliminary injunction now, and I propose to do so from the bench. In consequence, the wording will perhaps not be as artful as perhaps I would desire, but I think it is necessary under the circumstances.

I will ask only that in the event an appeal is to be taken from this order, that counsel order up the transcript so that I may cure any grammatical or typographical errors.

This is an action brought by plaintiff FinestFruits, Inc. v. Edward Boker, Inc. and the Sterling
National Bank. Subject matter jurisdiction is conferred
upon this court by the Perishable Agricultural Commodities
Act as amended.

The statute appears in 7 U.S.C., Section 499(a) and succeeding sections.

The motion for a preliminary injunction brought on by order to show cause was filed on May 19, 1986, but the order to show cause was signed by Judge Cannella in Part 1 on May 16, and service was directed to be made upon defendant Boker and on the bank on or before \$:00 p.m. on that day, May 16.

Service, in accordance with Judge Cannella's order, appears to have been made. No papers in ponosition have been filed or served that I am aware of. Appearances

have been made this morning by counsel for 3000 and for the bank.

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with an action commenced in White Plains has been made by counsel for the bank and for Boker. No papers have been filed in connection with a formal motion to consolidate.

That motion to consolidate is resisted by counsel for plaintiff Finest.

I do not regard the motion to consolidate as .

properly before me. Such applications must be made on

papers with a sufficient notice to other parties to

Litigation to either agree or resist consolidation.

In this case, the plaintiff in the case before me indicates the desire to resist. In these circumstances and in this chronology. I do not regard a motion to consolidate as properly before me.

Surely, as indicated during the colloquy of counsel, there is no power in this court to compel a party such as Finest to enter into a stipulation which other litigants, claimants in comparable circumstances, may have agreed to join. That's for them to say. But equally, it is for the plaintiff before me, Finest Fruits.

Inc., to stand clear of such a settlement, such an arrangement, and pursue whatever individual remedies may be conferred upon them by the statute to which I have referred

dectaration of temption of the ordinary truptcy machinery in cases where trusts are created under this more recent statute.

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So for all of these reasons, I regard this application as arising out of an action brought in this court under statutory authority by Finest Fruits v. Boker and the bank. The operative provision appears in 7 U.S.C., Section 499(e) 2, which provides in pertinent part "Perishable agricultural commodities received by a commissioned merchant, dealer or broker in all transactions and all inventories of food or other products derived from perishable agricultural commodities and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of such commodities or products shall be held by such commissioned merchant, dealer or broker in trust for the benefit of all unpaid suppliers or sellers of such commodities or agents involved in the transaction until full payment of the sums owing in . connection with such transactions has been received by such unpaid suppliers, sellers or agents."

The statute is cast in mandatory terms: "Shall be held in trust."

I am not aware of a case that directly addresses the point, but it is not clear to me that the tradicional showing to obtain the preliminary injunctive relief even applies here. We are all familiar with those criticional

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A preliminary showing of possible irreparable harm coupled with either a showing of likelihood of success on the merits or significant questions requiring further liftigation and a balance of hardships tipping decidedly in favor of the party seeking equirable ratios

We are all familiar with those standards that apply in the usual commercial case wherea preliminary injunction is sought.

But here I am dealing with a statute which seeks in mandatory terms in respect of the creation of the trust and this is a limited application for preliminary injunction. It simply asks me to direct that the trust mandated by the statute be in fact implemented and created.

It is a relatively narrow application for preliminary injunctive relief that the plaintiff makes , and it appears to track the statute.

It does not appear to be denied that the factual background asserted by the plaintiff is true. The papers indicate that those facts are present in this case, and I don't hear it suggested that the factual presentation made by the plaintiff is inaccurate in any way.

Surely no papers have been served to question that factual underpinning, and I do not hear counse; opposing the application suggest that the factual allegations are inaccurate to any way. In consequence of

to see if that happens or to assume that it is going to happen or to participate in a plan which apparently other comparable sellers have agreed to participate in, in the White Plains litigation.

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It seems to me that a sufficient showing has been made in this case for the plaintiff to receive the preliminary injunctive relief that its prays for in this application, and in consequence of that I enter and make the following order:

I direct that during the pendency of this action, the defendants, Edward Boker, Inc. and Sterling National Bank, N.A. place in trust the amount of \$30,388 in an interest-bearing account, a separate account, which the Sterling National Bank may maintain in satisfaction of the trust obligations which arise under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act.

I should think that that would satisfy the plaintiff's present request. Do you suggest any additional anguage that should be included in the order?

perhaps this is implied, but that nothing can be done with those assets until further order of the court. In other words (it is subject to further order.

THE COURT: Was it think it was implicit but the

we make it exply faither disect that nothing further be done with those particular trus 2 amounts pending the further order of this court in this 3 litigation. 4 This order delivered as I have done this morn S is intended to be binding upon the defendant , Edward 6 Boker, Inc. It is also intended to be binding upon 7 Sterling National Bank, N.A., and it is also binding upo. 8 9 those entities, officers, agents, servants, employees and attorneys and upon any others in active concert or 10 participation with them. u 12 I have followed the language of Rule 65. 13 I do not require the posting of a bond by Finest in the context of this preliminary injunction. 14 IS Anything further-I-should deal with today? 16 Your Honor, could we request MR. GILBERT: 17 · a stay of this order for a period of five days? 18 THE COURT: I deny a stay in the exercise of 19 政 discretion. \mathfrak{D} 31 7 23 31